

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (previously presented)

A cutter for separating pre-determined quantities of food from a food block, said cutter comprising

(a) a body member with measurement marks on it, said measurement marks being spaced from one another in a first direction, and

(b) a cutting edge extending transversely to said first direction and being spaced from said measurement marks, in which said cutting edge has a width at least substantially equal to the width of said food block in the direction in which it is to be cut;

(c) said measurement marks measuring distances from said cutting edge and indicating quantity measurements in the space between said marks and said cutting edge.

Claim 2 (cancelled)

Claim 3 (currently amended)

A cutter for separating pre-determined quantities of food from a food block, said cutter comprising

(a) a body member with measurement marks on it, said measurement marks being spaced from one another in a first direction, and

(b) a cutting edge extending transversely to said first direction and being spaced from said measurement marks, in

which said body member has an opening extending near said marks and in said first direction and positioned to allow at least a portion of said food block to be visible when said cutter is positioned atop said food block, in which said body member has side edges and a central portion between said edges and said opening is an elongated slot positioned adjacent said central portion of said body member.

Claim 4 (cancelled)

Claim 5 (original)

A cutter as in Claim 1 in which said body member has a plurality of sets of measurement marks, each for use in cutting food blocks of a different size.

Claim 6 (original)

A cutter as in Claim 5 in which said body member has two opposed broad surfaces, one of said sets being located on one of said surfaces, and another set being located on the other of said surfaces.

Claim 7 (original)

A cutter as in Claim 5 in which one of said sets is adapted to provide measurements for a butter block of one regional standard size, and the other of said sets is adapted to provide measurements for another regional standard butter block size.

Claim 8 (previously presented)

A cutter as in Claim 1 in which said body member has a width at least as great as the width of said cutting edge, whereby said cutter can be used in the manner of a spatula.

Claim 9 (previously presented)

A method of separating a quantity of food from a food block, said method comprising

(a) selecting a cutter comprising a body member with measurement marks spaced from one another in one direction, and a cutting edge at one end, said cutting edge extending transversely with respect to said one direction and having a width which is substantially equal to or greater than the width of the food block to be cut said measurement marks indicating volume measurements corresponding to distances from said cutting edge,

(b) positioning said body member to be substantially parallel to one surface of said food block and aligning one of said measurement marks with said food block, with said cutting edge positioned adjacent said surface of said food block,

(c) pivoting said cutter about said cutting edge to a position in which said body member is transverse to said surface of said block, and

(d) thrusting said cutter into said block to separate said quantity from said block.

Claim 10 (previously presented)

A method as in Claim 9 in which said measurement marks include a plurality of sets of marks, one set for each of a plurality of food block sizes, and including the step of selecting the set of marks to be used for the food block to be cut.

Claim 11 (cancelled)